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(b)(3) (~~S//~~ ☐ ~~/CIA-IOU/~~ ☐ ~~/NF~~) SUBJ: EXPECTATION THAT THERE WILL BE NO UPCOMING HIGH LEVEL CHANGES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE

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Central Intelligence Agency

30 April 1985

Doc Number:

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(~~S//~~ ☐ ~~/CIA-IOU/~~ ☐ ~~/NF~~) WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET--WNINTEL--NOFORN--~~ DIST: 29 APRIL 1985 COUNTRY: EL SALVADOR SUBJ: EXPECTATION THAT THERE WILL BE NO UPCOMING HIGH LEVEL CHANGES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE DOI: SOURCE:

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

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REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET--WNINTEL--NOFORN--~~

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DIST:

COUNTRY: EL SALVADOR

SUBJ: EXPECTATION THAT THERE WILL BE NO UPCOMING HIGH LEVEL CHANGES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE

DOI: LATE APRIL 1985

SOURCE:

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TEXT: 1.

2. ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT JOSE NAPOLEON ((DUARTE)) INTENDS TO REPLACE FOUR OR FIVE CABINET OFFICERS IN THE NEAR FUTURE, THE PRESIDENT DOES NOT PLAN TO MAKE ANY KEY PERSONNEL CHANGES WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE (MOD), MAINLY BECAUSE OF PROBLEMS OF SUCCESSION WITHIN THE MILITARY HIERARCHY. A PRINCIPAL REASON IS THAT, GIVEN THE CURRENT PERSONNEL SITUATION WITHIN THE MILITARY

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HIGH COMMAND, IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO REPLACE MINISTER OF DEFENSE CARLOS EUGENIO ((VIDES)) CASANOVA:

-- VICE MINISTER OF DEFENSE OF THE ARMED FORCES
GENERAL RAFAEL ((FLORES)) LIMA, WHO WOULD BE A POSSIBLE CANDIDATE TO SUCCEED VIDES, IS PROBABLY NOT UP TO THE TOP JOB FOR MEDICAL REASONS.

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--VICE MINISTER OF DEFENSE FOR PUBLIC SECURITY
COLONEL REYNALDO ((LOPEZ)) NUILA, ANOTHER POSSIBLE CANDIDATE, WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO THE MAJORITY OF THE OFFICER CORPS LARGELY DUE TO HIS LACK OF COMBAT EXPERIENCE.

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--GENERAL BUSTILLO, ALSO A POSSIBLE CANDIDATE, IS NEEDED TO CONTINUE IN HIS PRESENT POST AS AIR FORCE COMMANDER.

--ARMED FORCES JOINT GENERAL STAFF (EMCFA) CHIEF
GENERAL BLANDON WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO REPLACE IN HIS POSTING IF HE WERE TO MOVE TO THE MOD POST.

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4. COLONEL LOPEZ NUILA WOULD LIKE TO BE PROMOTED TO

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GENERAL IN JULY 1985, BUT HAS NO INTENTION OF RETIRING OR OTHERWISE WITHDRAWING FROM THE SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT IF HE IS NOT. THE TOP LEADERSHIP OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC) BELIEVES IT IS POSSIBLE TO MAKE THE POSITION OF VICE MINISTER OF DEFENSE FOR PUBLIC SECURITY, CURRENTLY HELD BY LOPEZ NUILA, AN AUTOMATIC GENERAL OFFICER POSITION, TO PUT IT ON PAR WITH THE DEFENSE VICE MINISTERSHIP HELD BY GENERAL FLORES LIMA. IF THAT CHANGE WERE MADE, REGULATIONS WOULD ALSO BE ESTABLISHED TO ENSURE THAT PERSONNEL FROM THE PUBLIC SECURITY SECTOR WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO MOVE TO SENIOR COMMAND POSITIONS WITHIN THE MILITARY SECTOR OF ARMED FORCES. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]--DISSEMINATION AND EXTRACTION OF INFORMATION [REDACTED]

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DECL: [REDACTED] ALL PORTIONS CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT.

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